(b) whether they will be pleased to call for information as to the number of deaths of men as also of animals in these villages due to tigers in 1926-27 and to the end of November in 1928 ; and

(c) the action they propose to take to relieve the people from such terror ?

A.—(a) The only informations available are the mortality statistics. In regard to human mortality due to the attacks of wild animals these statistics were on verification of specific entries found to be based on no reliable information. Accordingly detailed instructions have been issued in the matter but the Government fear that it will take a year or two before any improvement in the direction of accuracy will result.

(b) The Government do not consider that any information recorded for the year 1926 or 1927 are likely to be trustworthy. If the hon. Member is suggesting that there has been recently many attacks on human beings near Gumsoor, a report will be called for.

(c) With a view to encourage the destruction of wild animals, the Government offer rewards for the killing of tigers, leopards, panthers and cheetahs on the scale laid down in Board's Standing Order No. 196.

Police

Arrest of certain Andhra leaders on 17th February 1929.

* 1457-A *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Andhra leaders including Messrs. Konda Venkatappayya and K. V. R. Swami were arrested by the Police on the 17th instant ;

(b) whether they were arrested without any warrants ; and if so, why ;

(c) whether the arrest was under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code, and if so, what was the information against each of them within the knowledge of the Police who arrested them ;

(d) who gave the information to the Police in each case ;

(e) whether they were released on the same day ;

(f) whether the arrest and the release of either of them were made under the orders or with the knowledge of the Government ; and

(g) whether the Government have made any investigation in regard to the arrests of these leaders, and if so, what is the result of the investigation and what action has been taken by the Government ?

A.—(a) Four persons were arrested including those mentioned by the hon. Member.

(b), (c) & (d) They were arrested without warrants under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code. The Police had credible information that these men intended to disturb the public peace on the 18th February 1929.

(e) Yes.

(f) No.

(g) The Government have made enquiries and elicited the information given in the answers to the previous clauses.

25th February 1929]

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether the Commissioner of Police himself was aware of these arrests ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" He was aware of them."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I ask whether warrants were issued against a large number of persons or only against these three persons ?"

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" No warrants were issued against anybody."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether the Commissioner of Police has powers to arrest anybody indiscriminately ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" What is the nature of the disturbance that was apprehended from these gentlemen ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The nature of the disturbance that was apprehended was that they would not obey any lawful orders that might be issued with regard to the route of the procession and with regard to any other matters."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I ask whether section 151, Criminal Procedure Code, is generally issued against robbers and thieves ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I do not know, Sir."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether the information received by the Police was against these four persons only or against any others also ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Against seven persons."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I ask why the other three persons also were not similarly dealt with ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Having heard that they were likely to be arrested they went to the Assistant Commissioner of Police and gave assurance that they would not commit any breach of peace."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" Was the assurance given in writing or orally ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Orally."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" The hon. Member said that he apprehended that these people would not obey any lawful orders that might be issued with regard to the route of the procession. May I know whether any route was prescribed or notified ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Any lawful orders, which may be passed on the 18th instant, with regard to the route."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" The Police are said to have arrested these people on credible information. Was that information found to be unreliable afterwards ?"

[25th February 1929

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir ; it was absolutely reliable."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Then why were they released ? "

The. hon Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " They gave an assurance that they would not commit any breach of the peace or disobey any lawful orders the Commissioner might pass."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to give a single instance in which section 151 of the Criminal Procedure Code was put into operation, so far as he is aware ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what is the source of the credible information ? Is it from the Criminal Intelligence Department ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Under the Evidence Act it is not obligatory on the part of the Police to reveal the source of information. The Government think that it would not be to the public interest to reveal it."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what is the cognizable offence which Mr. Swami Nayudu and Mr. Konda Venkatappayya were about to commit ? What is the cognizable offence that was brought to the notice of the Government or of the Police as being liable to be committed by these two persons ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. Member is arguing."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am asking what are the acts which Mr. Swami Nayudu was about to commit which would amount to a cognizable offence."

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have already answered it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether any orders were issued legally or otherwise by the Commissioner of Police about the route of the procession even on the 18th instant ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask on what date precisely this credible information was received by the Police ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" A day or two before the 18th."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Was the information received by the Police in general or by any particular Police officer ? "

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I ask whether the Police settled any route at any time till the 17th ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Police directly told these people the route along which the procession should go, when the former interviewed the latter in the jail ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"These people were arrested and taken to the Assistant Commissioner of Police; they gave assurance there that they would not disobey any lawful orders that might be passed; thereafter they were released."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the arrested people were asked to put their assurance in writing and whether they refused to do so?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"In view of the fact that the section postulates a design to commit a cognizable offence, may I ask the hon. the Home Member to state the nature of the particular offence these persons were supposed to be about to commit?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already answered that question."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member to say whether the information which the Police had was from the Circars or from the local police and on what date it was received by the Commissioner of Police?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already stated that in the public interest I must decline to answer that question."

Arrest of certain Andhra leaders on 17th February 1929.

*1457-B *Q.*—Mr. C. OBI REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) why and for what offence Desabhakta Konda Venkatappayya, Purniah Sastri and Mr. K. V. R. Swami Nayudu were arrested by the Police on 17th February 1929;

(*b*) what was the incriminating material with the Police against the said gentlemen at the time of their arrest;

(*c*) whether there was any consultation by the Commissioner of Police, Madras City, with the hon. the Law or Home Member in this matter prior to the said arrest; and

(*d*) whether the Advocate-General was also consulted in this affair by Police prior to arrest?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1457-A.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) No.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether these gentlemen refused to sign bail bonds when they were asked to do so by the Police?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They were not asked to sign any bail bond."